
THE AMERICAN McALL RECORD

A CHRONICLE OF INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP



ANNUAL REVIEW of ACTIVITIES in the MISSION POPULAIRE

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Jusqu'à Novembre

We are happy to be able to give so many pages of this issue of the RECORD to the heartening and stirring stories of the accomplishments of the Mission centers. Although brief, because of space limitations, they mirror faithfully the ceaseless labor of love which is finding a welcome response in many hearts weighted with care, sorrow and spiritual misunderstanding.

At this time all thoughts are turning to Buffalo, scene of the forty-eighth annual meeting of the Association, May 13 and 14. Some of the features of the program have been revealed. Others are carefully withheld to give to the sessions that fillip of surprise

which creates an atmosphere of anticipation. No Auxiliary can really afford to be without representation at this meeting. The Buffalo Auxiliary is expecting you, is planning for you, and you will both be sorry if you do not attend. Do come.

To every enterprise which depends upon public subscription for its maintenance the past twelve months have been a period of worry, uncertainty and caution. Only those organizations which are solidly entrenched behind a wall of endowment have been able to present a smiling figure.

It is not to be wondered that the American McAll Association, which carries its banner without benefit of a heavy endowment fund, has suffered, in common with similar altruistic organizations, a slump in its receipts for the year as revealed by the treasurer's report soon to be in the hands of the membership.

Yet there is cause for rejoicing. The falling off has not been so serious as many anticipated. Where other missionary groups are reporting a decrease of as much as 60 per cent in receipts, the Association may well be thankful that it has suffered only to the extent of about 25 per cent.

This encouraging fact is due to the splendid zeal, sacrifice and effort which have been made by the Auxiliaries and friends of McAll. Armed with those same weapons, there is no reason why the Association, in the coming year, should not go forward to a triumphant recovery of its lost ground and even mark a new record in its service for the Master.

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It Is Through Faith A Review of the Year in the Mission Populaire

By EMMANUEL CHASTAND, *Director General*

"It is through faith." Such is the refrain in the Epistle to the Hebrews which accompanies the stories of victories and miracles.

We, too, in our turn, glancing over the reports summing up the activities of the Mission during the past year, say to ourselves, "It is through faith."

Through faith this inveterate drunkard of Rouen, after having signed 121 pledges in vain, has been victorious after the 120th signature!

It is through faith that at Arcueil a former communist, atheistic, brutal, has become a good husband and father, and is having his child instructed in Christianity. Excluded from the Bolshevik party, he is now a soldier of Christ.

Through faith children find their families reunited, drunkards are regenerated, and sinners are converted and saved!

Alfortville, La Villette, Javel, Faubourg Saint-Antoine, Boulevard Sébastopol, and then Nice, Marseilles and Saint-Etienne. These are our evangelization halls dating from the time of Dr. McAll, with their modest equipment in unprepossessing locations.

How lost they seem in the midst of the immense swarms of human beings, where they are faithful witnesses for Jesus Christ! And yet, far from being smothered, they are multiplying. How many people, in the course of the year, found peace and safety in them! It is moving to see how attached our friends become to their hall.

"If I leave Alfortville, I shall miss nothing but the Mission. There alone I have felt happy."

Many express gratitude:

"The bread I needed I found at the Mission." (Marseilles.)

"I had never yet found satisfaction for my soul. I have found it through you!" (Nice)

At Villette a woman testified to her faith before two Jews. "She talks like a rabbi," said one of them, and she said, "I am never so happy as when I can tell what the Savior has done for me."

In regard to Salle Baltimore (Boulevard Sébastopol), M. Gallienne writes: "The newspapers of Paris go into ecstasies over a play which has been running for two years. What would they say if they knew that, but a few steps from the fine theatres there is a hall where the same marvelous story is told year after year—that of the Savior!"

Let us glance at our Fraternités in Paris.

Salle Centrale, rue Pierre Levée, has announced the organization of a new troop of Boy Scouts; this group will be added to the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A., which gave thirteen converts to our Mission this year.

Our friends are very appreciative of the motion picture apparatus given to them by the New York Auxiliary.

Family Spirit Established

Bienvenue is always a lively center, with many young people. The plan was to attract the parents and adults of the community. This was accomplished, and little by little there was established among our listeners the family spirit which reigns in the other foyers of the Mission. Some of them show their interest by assisting in the upkeep of the property and in various

fêtes. A social and religious study class is very well attended, and contributes to the spiritual development of these workers, who are for the most part unbelievers. Several of them have entrusted the religious education of their children to M. Lcenhardt.

M. Bertrand has made of the Foyer of Grenelle a family center. It is to be noticed in the atmosphere of the meetings. Since the war, the great number of foreigners from Africa and the Balkans has lowered the already uncertain morality of that quarter. Its young people are especially endangered. To them Mlle. Chéradame devotes her time, and many children have interested their parents in our work and drawn them toward Christ.

Maison Verte. The reputation of this station is already established in the community where it enjoys the esteem of all. Its religious meetings, the core of its activity, are very well attended. This year, in compliance with the wishes of its members, M. Jalaguier has instituted a regular communion service. Let us mention also the "Disciples of Jesus," children from eight to thirteen years of age, who come together for prayer meetings. More than one of these little "poulbots" could be cited as an example of Christian faith. Let us mention also that the health of these children is benefited by the dispensary erected through the efforts of the Sewickley Auxiliary.

Before leaving Paris for the provinces, let us go to the outskirts to greet Madame Martin at Bicêtre and M. LeGoff at Arcueil.

Due to the faith and tenacity of its directrice, the work at Bicêtre shows progress each month. One by one, new activities are begun. Formerly, the work with older people was the most important, but today, without neglect to the aged, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Wolf Cubs, Little Wings, Ecole de Garde, Y. M. C. A., etc., enliven this work and augur well for its future. There is only one dark cloud—the dilapidated condition of the two huts stationed there for many years. They were constructions of experiment and expectation. Now the work is thriving, and some day it will have to be sheltered in a more comfortable and convenient place.

Arcueil, reward of an act of faith! For this population whom the denials of communism leave depressed and without strength against evil, the Fraternalité is a haven more and more frequented and loved. The lectures attract large audiences, but excellent work is also accomplished in the kitchen meetings where knowledge of the Bible and spiritual life is strengthened.

"What you have taught me," said one communist, "shows me my unworthiness. I would like to have a New Testament; I need it to make over my life." His little daughter has been baptized by the pastor of Montrouge, and her older sister will take her first communion this year.

Two years ago another communist said, "We communists will win victory by force." Today this former militant of Lenine fights for Christ. A woman

in torment summoned M. LeGoff and said, "I want you to teach me to pray."

The dispensary, equipped and maintained by our Montclair friends, gives great service to all. Mme. LeGoff as doctor and Mlle. Meylan as nurse have their hands full.

Nearby there is a communistic cité where we are summoned, and the meetings held there are very encouraging. How much we would like to erect a simple portable hall there! Cachan would become a second Arcueil.

Under the black, smoky sky of the North stands the Foyer of Fives-Lille. Early in the day M. Nick is in the streets distributing the good word, and the two nurses and M. Benoit all begin their tasks early, too. They are received everywhere with sympathy and respect. This year there was a religious movement among young people. Moreover, our friends have opened an evangelization hall in a neighboring district in order to reach new souls.

Son Watched the Calendar

Alcohol makes many ravages, and our friends fight courageously against this plague. Let us cite the story of a little boy who was a member of the Espoir. Two years ago the father, a drunkard, in order to put him off, said, "I will sign the pledge at the beginning of the new year." But, alas, the boy came to him too late on New Year's Day, for he had already taken a drink early in the morning. The next time, however, his little son was prepared. On the thirty-first of

December at the stroke of midnight he ran to his father and said, "Sign!" The father signed and has kept his promise.

At Roubaix, the Solidarité has not yet found a director qualified to succeed M. Ferret. Happily, we can count on the aid of M. Durand, colleague and friend of M. Ferret.

M. Borel and Mlle. Hilaire put forth all their efforts to keep this work alive, which is so necessary to the wretched community.

"When they can't go to the Solidarité the children cry and the week seems interminable," said one mother.

"Beginning Saturday evening I can't keep still," declared a former drinker, "I am so anxious to go to the Solidarité. I couldn't do without it now!"

"We came to your hall," a young couple said, "because we were seeking true friends, . . . and also because we wanted to know the Bible."

This year thirteen drunkards have given up their vice.

At Amiens M. and Mme. Brochet have been stationed since October, and the work is progressing steadily. The services of a man were necessary for work among men. M. Brochet was formerly at Desvres, where he was succeeded by M. Crémer, pastor at Boulogne. It seems that the departure of our evangelist awakened the zeal of his friends at Desvres. Fear that their lack of ardor would lead the Mission to abandon them engendered in them a sense of responsibility.

At Rouen the handsome building erected last year harbors a fine spir-

itual edifice. Many conversions have rewarded the efforts of our friends, Lafon and Riébel, and of Mlle. Deransart.

This year almost forty drinkers were saved. Several members of the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. gave themselves to the Lord.

Sometimes people say to us, "France, with all its churches, seems more Christian than any other country. Is the work of the Mission very necessary to it?" To this we reply with a single word, "ROUEN."

In the Shadow of Cathedrals

Rouen is the city of churches; steeples and spires rise everywhere; but it is also the city of alcoholism (121½ litres per person are consumed each year), and the city of tuberculosis and of hovels. People live and die in sin in the shadow of the cathedrals, and there the McAll Mission fulfills its work of regeneration and salvation.

Nantes—city of churches also, and city of cabarets! Alcohol, poverty, tuberculosis! Here again the Mission is in the vanguard to save souls. The whole city knows the Fraternité, and for many it has been a shelter where peace and salvation are found. Twenty-five alcohol addicts have given their pledges since the last Blue Cross campaign. Our friend Milhomme, a former convict, is today a free man through the grace of Jesus. His marvelous example is an encouragement to others. The Mission church has made new conquests.

Saint-Nazaire. A splendid work in a wretched group of shanties! In this socialistic city we have the sympathy of the people. M. LeBerre, who is carrying on the work already developed by M. Garnier, is impatient to see a building worthy of the Gospel succeed the old Semeuse, which is often too small for its audiences. Several families have desired to become Protestant. The nurse, Mlle. Ramel, has seen several former unbelievers die in peace.

The itinerant work is carried on in Brittany through the efforts of M. Scarabin, equipped with an automobile and a van. "What encourages us to go forward," he writes, "is the conviction that the country is waiting for us." Attendance at a single van meeting or a glimpse of the eagerness with which Gospels and hymn books are bought at the fairs would suffice to convince one of this fact.

Lastly, here is a question which is at once a reproach and an appeal: "How is it that you Protestants who possess this treasure, the Gospel, have been so long in sharing it with us?"

Chapel Boats Weather Storms

The Bonne Nouvelle was repaired and has again taken its place beside the Bon Messager where M. Chollet continues to look after physical and spiritual health. The incessant autumn and winter floods have retarded the progress of our captains. Theirs is a work of faith! They are always sowing, sowing, and entrusting to God the grain they have scattered.

However, a glance behind shows a faithful group at Pont Sainte Maxence, as well as at Esbly and at La Ferté.

"Throw your bread on the surface of the waters and you will find it again," says the Scripture.

Listen to the following story. More than thirty years ago a man heard the Gospel on board our boat. He surrendered to God. Then, the boat went on its way, and he was left alone with only a hymn of the Mission Populaire. Each day he repeated this verse, in place of a prayer:

*Lord, I have nothing to offer you
But a heart weary with suffering,
And which, without you, cannot heal.
Take me, such as I am.*

One day he heard that there were some Christian evangelists at Rouen, and this eighty-year-old man walked from six o'clock in the morning until two in the afternoon to see a pastor and to make him promise to pronounce words of Christian faith over his tomb.

The Zone! The more we work there the more we see it is a veritable hell! Three girls, one of whom is at Chatillon, were rescued in time from the irreparable. But how many others are the victims of men's brutality! In the Zone girls of twelve years are rented or sold!

Poverty is a poor advisor. Early it encourages evil practices. Do you see that little fellow scurrying down the steps of his roulotte? What has he in his hand? A potato which he has just stolen. That thief is just eighteen months old!

Our nurses bend with devotion over frightful sores. It takes Christian love to remain steadfast before such filth and foulness.

Yet these people have souls. At a meeting which M. Huguet held in the van one Sunday two persons dared to raise their hands in response to the question, "Who wants to surrender to God?"

At Chatillon children thrive in a Christian atmosphere far from their vicious hovels. As for the vacation colonies, the report appearing in a previous issue of the Record has summed up the inestimable good that they have done. They are more than ever necessary to rescue young souls from communistic and atheistic influences.

The war orphan work helps us, in taking care of the poor, to exercise a Christian influence over numerous wards. This is Mme. Roustain's special care.

What joy Mme. Vachon spreads by her distributions from the Vestiaire!

But this all turns our thoughts toward all our friends who have made it possible for us to scatter so many material and spiritual benefits. Thus it is with a word of profound gratitude that I terminate this rapid resumé, this brief glimpse of the work of the Mission Populaire.

I am mindful of the words with which this report began. "It is through faith!" Yes, through faith the Mission was created and is sustained. It proves the truth of these words of Scripture: "It will be done unto you according to your faith!"

IN MEMORIAM

MANY members of the American McAll Association will recall Mrs. Jared W. Finney, former State Vice-President from Michigan.

In addition, Mrs. Finney was for many years president of that little group of faithful members of the Detroit Auxiliary which had been contributing to McAll for more than thirty years.

Hers was a rarely beautiful personality, an understanding, motherly soul, devoted to her home and family and yet with such a broad outlook on life that she was able to take a keen interest in every project affecting civic welfare.

Mrs. Finney was a past president of the Young Women's Christian Association, former regent of the Louisa St. Clair Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and president of countless societies of both local and national scope.

The February meeting of the newly-organized Detroit Auxiliary will long be a cherished memory as Mrs. Finney, with seven other contributing members, attended and her reminiscences that afternoon were delightful and an inspiration to all.

In March, Mrs. Finney went to the home eternal, the earthly ending of a complete life; but we know that she of the cheery smile and cordial greeting would wish us to add, "The world is not inclined to grief but to joy, and this somehow includes the departed."

MRS. HENRY B. JOY.

Achievement

Stories Culled from the Reports of the Year in the Mission Populaire

ALFORTVILLE

Just as the disciples sent by Jesus returned each evening to their Master, so we bring each day to the Lord all to whom we have been able to speak in His Name.

One young man of eighteen was seeking God. Twice he had gone to a great church, but after the service he left without daring to speak to the pastor. Every morning on his way to work in the tram he passed the hall of Alfortville, and he decided to visit it one Sunday. He came and asked questions about the Gospel with a real thirst for knowledge. Now he goes to a church in his own community and is remaining steadfast.

A young woman has passed through great trials, but has been able to rebuild a happy home. As we were turning our thoughts back over her years of misery, I said to her, "Now you can thank God for giving you real happiness." "Yes, and it was by coming frequently to the hall that I met my husband again and that we are in accord, for our religious ideas are the same." Twenty years ago her husband used to come to our children's meetings.

An old woman was in despair, for her son had just been taken to the hospital. At the factory a heavy case

had fallen and crushed his leg. Days passed without bringing any hope. The poor mother prayed with all her heart and we prayed with her.

At the hospital the son was courageous. He read his Bible and asked me to lend him a New Testament. A surgical operation was necessary. The patient was given a local anesthetic and was aware of the whole operation. Now, in spite of his weakness, he is peaceful and confident, knowing that we all are praying for him.

J. MAIGNE.



AMIENS

Among about a hundred children who are brought together in our center, important work, with great promise for the future, is being accomplished. A large proportion of children from the Maison Fraternelle attend the Sunday school of the church, where they are among the most attentive and where their development is being continued safely.

Through the children we come in contact with their parents. Thus we can reach places where we see and learn very distressing things.

One poor child comes to the hall on Thursdays in a wheel chair. Perhaps his legs will never support him again!

His grandmother is of Catholic faith and knows nothing of Protestantism. But she has a great affection for this little boy, and coming to our hall makes him so happy that she does not want to deny him this pleasure. For his sake she consented one day to go to a fête given at the church, and then her prejudices disappeared one by one. I saw her again the next day and the good woman said to me, "I never would have believed it. It has completely upset me." The work is being carried further in this family for the young daughter, who has been under Catholic influence for a number of years, attends our meetings where she "finds what she has not found elsewhere." Her grandfather, whose face is still scarred from falling on the stove while intoxicated, has promised me to give up drink, and he now attends the men's meetings.

The pack of Wolf Cubs is taking on new life under the intelligent direction of Mlle. Tellier, who we hope will soon be the beloved captain of those in whom she is so much interested. Already we can see some rays of hope for the future. One of the children came running to me, quite out of breath, and said, "I know my pledge: 'I promise on my honor to serve God and my country' (etc.). I also know my Sunday school lesson by heart."

H. BROCHET.



ARCUEIL

If we had to sum up in a few words our impressions of the work accomplished at Arcueil during the last few

months, we would say, very simply, "We are encouraged."

Hearts have unfolded, consciences have awakened, and lives are being remodeled. The Gospel is penetrating souls. For many the Fraternité is still the Foyer where one finds relaxation and recreation (which is a beginning), but for some it is the house where one learns to know the Savior, where one speaks of God, where one "transforms men," as a former Communist said a few days ago, and he added, "I speak from experience."

There are some who are struggling and seeking, are attracted by the Gospel, but have not yet taken a definite stand. There was a man who said he had reasons for not believing in God. He is now catching a glimpse of a new ideal, since he has been coming to the Foyer. "I feel attracted toward you; I approve your ideas, and yet something is holding me back, and besides, you ask me to make too many sacrifices." After numerous interviews and ardent prayers he will soon reach his goal.

One head of a family had for a long time considered the Fraternité as a motion picture house. "I know nothing of the Gospel," he said, "and I feel none the worse for it." Today he is a faithful listener at our meetings. The religious question now has a real importance for him, and he is troubled. He is searching and wishes to find.

I received a summons one evening from a woman who said, "I want you to come, for I have a serious question

to ask you." In a park pavilion I found her singularly torn by suffering, restless, tormented, afraid to speak. Suddenly, as if to relieve an overburdened conscience, she cried, "I asked you to come so that you could teach me to pray. I should like to pray, but I cannot. The Fraternité has done so much for me. Will it not be able to do this, too?" Yes, the Fraternité will do it. A soul is being expanded.

R. LEGOFF.

▼
LA BIENVENUE

Encouragement in work comes from the devotion of those whom it attracts. Such has been our experience at Bienvenue. The Foyer is no longer merely a place to dispose of one's children; it is becoming a foyer where parents like to have their children cared for, and where they enjoy coming themselves whenever possible.

After a profitable period for the various meetings at Bienvenue—workmen's social study class and Sunday evening family meetings—we can now see a feeling of responsibility developing.

One professional painter undertook to paint the stage settings by himself. Another man whose trade is metal framework completely restored an old see-saw. A third continues to give weekly music lessons which he began last year. A group of fathers proposed that they pay a small share of the expenses of the family meetings. The contribution was fixed at one or

two francs a month. These are all favorable signs, and from a growing sense of responsibility confidence will develop.

We believe that young people find the atmosphere pleasant, for one day we were visited by a young girl from the other end of Paris, who had come to look for friends at Bienvenue. When we inquired where she had obtained the address of the Foyer, since she lived near the Etoile, she explained that her life was lonely and devoid of pleasures, and she had dreamed of meeting a group of young girls. One day a troop of Girl Scouts passed by, and in it she saw the realization of what she had been seeking. Failing to find a trace of them again, she finally inquired of a policeman in her quarter if he knew who were those girls dressed in brown who had passed on Sunday. The officer looked surprised, reflected a moment, and said, "Oh, yes. Go to La Bienvenue, 67 Boulevard Auguste-Blanqui. Sometimes I have seen them leaving there."

MAURICE LEENHARDT.

The école de garde averages forty children who have given us great satisfaction.

We have succeeded in getting the majority of the children interested in their individual work. Formerly they thought only of finishing their tasks as rapidly as possible, by copying from each other. Now they enjoy working by themselves and only have recourse to us for verification or for the most difficult passages.

The little ones also encourage us. Their joy is great at the end of the month when they brandish their notebooks and say: "I've advanced four places." "And I six." "I am first."

Several ask to leave as soon as their tasks are finished in order to assist at home, sometimes even to prepare a meal.

Very often these urchins of eleven, as careworn as little old men, say as they leave: "I'm going to prepare dinner," or "I wonder if my beans are done or if they have stuck."

One boy, Charles D., so happy to be with us since vacation school, always enjoys the singing of hymns and smiles as he hums them. They brighten his wretched existence, for he lives with his mother in a miserable hotel room and his sixteen-year-old brother is the sole provider for their needs.

L. KASPAR.

FIVES-LILLE

"Why did you come to the Foyer?" the pastor asked.

"Well, what you tell us is not new to me. Before knowing you I tried to do as much good as I could. In the workshops jealousy reigns. When a new workman is being tried out, the others take his tools and refuse to help him, and if his job is not finished in time, his salary is reduced. I was treated in this way, but in return I sharpened the tools of the other workmen and lent them mine when they had need of them.

"You have taught me nothing new, but I find here all that I sought and hoped for: true friends. It seems easy to improve oneself here. That is why I like to come to the Foyer."

HENRI NICK.

KREMLIN-BICETRE

The école de garde has been in existence only since October. We began with twelve children. Today, without any publicity, we have an enrollment of ninety and an average attendance of fifty.

All of these children come to school on Thursdays and Sundays. The new pupils are enrolled in the école de garde and the patronage. Most of their parents work, and they are grateful to us for our efforts in teaching their children.

We have little means of estimating the progress of the children. However, discipline gives us small trouble. We train the children not to call aloud to the person whose task it is to correct exercises, and not to leave their places without permission. The work is better than it was at the beginning of the year. Several of our little pupils who seemed incapable of writing a neat and legible exercise have attained satisfactory results. Those who do not yet have exercises set down problems on their slates themselves, and sometimes we are very much surprised to find subtractions of which the largest figure is below the line.

Our children love the école de garde. We are obliged to close our

doors to the little brothers and sisters who do not yet go to school and whom the older ones would like to bring. It is a punishment not to be allowed to attend the school. One big sister said, "You know, Marie, if you are not good I'll tell mother and you won't be allowed to come any more." Jean, who had been absent one time, explained, "Mother didn't want me to come because it's too far, but I can't get used to school. I like the Foyer much better."

We want the children to know the Gospel at the école de garde and we are going to try writing verses on the blackboard for the children to learn by the end of the week. Later, perhaps, their faithful memories will recall to them these verses, and will help them to follow the right path.

SIMONE VARLOUD.



MAISON VERTE

The parable of the miraculous catch by the fishermen of Galilee is a reality at Maison Verte. The net is cast not only on the days of large celebrations, but every day of the year it is put out faithfully. Our joy is great when it is not hauled in empty to the banks.

The results of our fishing this year have been almost miraculous. After having requested and faithfully pursued a course of religious instruction, sixteen adults were received into the Protestant church at Pentecost. It was a moving spectacle to see them make the usual pledges. Among them were

a principal of a girls' school, clerks and workmen.

The observance of the holy communion, which was requested by a large group, is one of our greatest encouragements. For example, at Christmas sixty persons took part in it. Protestants, Catholics with us at heart, and even one family belonging to the Greek orthodox church, were gathered there for communion. A pastor of one of the most important churches in Paris came from curiosity and declared that he took away memories not to be forgotten.

More and more we are asked to perform pastoral duties. A few children, encouraged by their parents, have desired to be baptized. An old couple, married many years ago with the civil ceremony, declared to us, "Now that we belong to La Maison Verte something is lacking." And the nuptial blessing given this couple was very touching.

Just yesterday a young member of the Y. W. C. A. presented her fiancé to me. "I want the ceremony of my marriage to take place here," she said. "It is my house; I have found God here."

"My house" because it is God's house!

This sums up everything, and leads us to wish that, more and more, many may find here their Christian home, forerunner of the eternal home which God prepares for us in heaven.

ANDRÉ JALAGUIER.

MARSEILLES

A young man of twenty with an unmentionable profession read a page of an open Bible in a window. "Do you sell the Bible?" he inquired. "How much?" "Ten francs," was the answer. "I will come back tomorrow to buy it." The next day he returned. A few bits of his lamentable history were revealed to us. "What brought you where you are?" He shrugged his shoulders. "I made my life what it is! Now to reform it!" The Bible leads us to God who makes lives over.

We said to a fifteen-year-old girl, "We haven't seen you the last few Thursdays." Her eyes saddened. One of her friends told us that she had been beaten severely by "the man who is not her father," because he saw her leaving the hall. Sometimes she escapes and comes to breathe the atmosphere of worship.

A father came to see where his children were going on Thursdays. We explained to him what we are and what we want to accomplish. He grasped our hands confidently. At his home, a few days later, he burst into tears before his wife after worship. "I'm very wretched," he said. Ah! the revealing power of the message from heaven! A boy of seventeen was living in a hovel where seven persons were crowded together. His constant prayer was "to be more faithful and stronger to resist temptation." Recently his employer, a subscriber to the Mission Populaire, said to me, "I am very much pleased with the boy. I do not know what has happened

these last few months, but he shows remarkable improvement. He is attentive, earnest, clean and grateful!"

A father of a family, sick for a year and doomed to die, said, "I have profited by my illness in reading my Bible from cover to cover. Now I am ready to resign myself to the Lord."

G. SABLIER.



NANTES

The Fraternité of Nantes to me is like Noah's Ark, floating on the angry waves of a flood and assuring safety to all who have sought refuge in it.

Intemperance, improvidence, lightness of conduct, the moral abandon of too great a number of children, the uncertainty of tomorrow, lack of principle, the deforming of spiritual life by a religion which is only a superstition, old men with no consolation, young people without ideals,—such are the ground-swells on which the Fraternité must float with its privileged passengers.

First of all, it extends a fraternal hand to the "submerged." The homeless, the destitute, the unemployed, the mothers of sick children, all know their way to the Fraternité where they are sure to find "good company." Here, the rooms of the Foyer du Jeune Homme, often too few, the restaurant, the dispensary, and funds which come to us from generous friends, are all of great help to us. The Fraternité is the family of those who have no household. It has gathered in a varying but continual number of children who have no other home. Without

this center, what would become of the young people who enter it as peacefully as if they were entering the home of their parents who, unhappily, either do not exist or are unworthy.

Our second concern is to have the ark of safety well organized.

We appointed a Comité de Patronage for the colony of La Bernerie, and some of the most sympathetic persons in the public schools or in the Protestant colony have given us their co-operation. On the other hand Mlle. Rose Ramel, who came to us only temporarily, has given up the direction of the restaurant. This is now managed by M. and Mme. Jégou, dear friends of the Fraternité and old members of the Blue Cross, who have undertaken the work with their whole heart, and will not allow themselves to be discouraged by the objections of drinking men. The purchase of an adjoining garden, in good condition, will enable us to double our play-ground which was insufficient, at times, for the sports of all our young people. Let us not forget that another piece of ground, admirably situated in the public square of Chantenay, awaits the construction of the "missionary church" which is the dream of our converts.

Our third ambition is to give to all the feeling of a covenant with God and to place them under the sign of the rainbow.

To give them light, then, we have our Sunday and Thursday schools, our elementary course of religious instruction, and our advanced class of boys from eighteen to twenty-three years of age who want to be real men. Then,

there is a weekly Bible reading course for adults, monthly prayer meetings, history classes (Egypt, Babylon, Rome, Greece, development of Christianity, etc.) and religious study classes (the Bible, Jesus, Christian living). Lastly, we have evangelization meetings and our church whose members, in their desire to avoid routine, are trying ceaselessly to renew their method of presenting the eternal truth.

GEORGE CADIER.



NEMOURS

Attendance at the Sunday afternoon services and the Thursday evening meetings has remained at about the same figure. Perhaps, in view of the many efforts made, we should expect to see an increase in the number present.

Does this mean that we can point to no encouraging results of our work?

Just such encouragement is the case of the young girl who was left alone in the world, went to Paris to earn her living, and there yielded to temptation. She returned to Nemours where God worked in her heart through the Foyer. After receiving religious instruction, at the age of twenty she presented herself with emotion and gratitude at the table of Him who forgives and saves.

Another heartening instance is that of a Swiss family who were isolated from civilization and who were eager to have their three children baptized.

We were also greatly encouraged by the baptism of a boy of ten at the wish of his mother who, though of

Catholic parentage, was practically without religious faith. Feeling the emptiness of her own inner life, she wanted her son to be under the influence of the great Christian family of the Foyer.

A. LIOTARD.



NICE

One naturally thinks of Nice as a resort of pleasure and luxury. This is only partly true. Nice also is familiar, more than one would suspect, with the working class which struggles for existence, and to which even a short period of unemployment brings distress.

Likewise, beside those seeking amusement, one finds at Nice, in surprisingly large numbers, earnest souls who are searching for the truth and for whom our hall is a sign-post directing them toward God. An example of this is the Spaniard who discovered our hall along his route, entered, returned, and later wrote these words: "You are kind to invite all to listen to the Word of God. I have never found satisfaction for my soul until today. Through you I have found complete satisfaction."

Two young girls, one an invalid and the other blind, are living in a charitable institution in Boston. The opportunity of corresponding with them was furnished to me by one of their friends, making a short stay in Nice. She sent them a collection of hymns from the Mission, and I addressed a copy of a Christmas poem

to them myself. Both wrote me very touching letters.

Our hall is also a haven of refuge for those whom life has mistreated. A prey to neurasthenia as the result of her own great sufferings and those of her family, a young woman came to our mothers' and young women's meetings. She became interested, and attended faithfully. Today she is transformed, and it is a pleasure to see the radiance and joy in her face.

As a visitor of women in prisons, my wife has been able to exercise a beneficial influence over the prisoners.

ARNOLD MALAN.



ROUBAIX

This past winter the Solidarité was enriched with a new group of Scouts—the troop of Guides. Some former Boy Scouts, eighteen to twenty years of age, not knowing what to do or where to go any more, formed this group, and have taken in earnest the ideal proposed to them—that of consecration and service. Since several of them came from a Catholic environment or were indifferent, they asked for an hour of religious instruction each week. Thus every Friday these eight young men meet to learn more about Jesus, whom they have decided to take for their Master.

GAD BOREL.

"The troop means everything to me; it is my life and my family," said a sixteen-year-old Girl Scout of Catholic origin, an orphan for several years, and

a simple office employee. Last summer she wrote to her captain, "What word do you think best characterizes life, the real life that I am discovering in the pages of the New Testament you gave me. Isn't it the word 'love'? What joy is growing in me now that I have found the satisfaction I was seeking for several years, yet without suspecting what great riches were in store for me!"

YVONNE HILAIRE.



ROUEN

In evangelization work, in order to thrive and develop, we must repeat our story constantly. In so materialistic an environment this cannot be done efficaciously without fêtes. To characterize our fêtes simply, let us say that this year our hall was filled with frank gaiety by the fairy tales enacted by the Cadettes or "Les Plaideurs," by Racine, and with genuine emotion by the presentation of "Judith Renaudin," drama in five acts by Pierre Loti. Our actors, all from this community, were never so distinguished as in these delicate rôles.

Our social study classes, re-organized this year, constitute another means of attracting the public. In these classes a variety of subjects is treated by specialists, such as Contagious Diseases, with motion pictures, by Dr. Foucart; Michelangelo, with lantern slides, by Professor Dardel; Rats, Mice and Field Mice, with a film from the Department of Agriculture, by M. Régnier, director of the Museum of Natural History; A

New Molière, Jules Romains, by the vice-president of the Université Populaire. Next month there will be an evening of musical art on J. S. Bach, with artists interpreting the various works of the great musician. These meetings of the study circle have attracted audiences of from two hundred to four hundred persons.

The very center of our activities is in the Sunday evening religious meetings at 6 o'clock, attended by from one hundred thirty to two hundred persons—our faithful friends and converts, with usually a large number of newcomers. The subjects, with attractive titles, are treated by a variety of speakers. These meetings are lively, and the hymns are sung with spirit. In them many of our friends come in contact with the Gospel, and strengthen the spiritual life which they have discovered at some other meeting of a more general nature.

For the really religious, however, we cannot stop with meetings of mere appeal. After having felt our way successfully last year, in October we commenced monthly meetings called "Spiritual Talks." We discuss subjects pertaining to the inner life: repentance, conversion, faith. The ice has been broken, and we chat in a friendly manner, exchanging ideas and relating our experiences. These "Spiritual Talks" are very popular among our working class.

Lastly, there are prayer meetings, also held monthly, bringing together from thirty to forty of the convinced. There we live the spiritual reality of

power and love while many give themselves to God, expressing their gratitude and hopes.

MAURICE LAFON.



SAINT ANTOINE

Henrietta G. is one of our most faithful pupils. Though her family is Hebrew, they are not concerned about the instruction she is receiving here. One day Henriette confided to me, "Grandmother doesn't want me to mention Jesus, but just the same I love Him with my whole heart."

Simone V., age ten, is the oldest of five children whose father, only twenty-five years old, spends all that he earns for liquor, leaving his family in want. When Simone learned that we were going to send her to La Bernerie her joy was unbounded, for she had never been outside of Paris before, and knew nothing of the country. At the very thought of spending a month there her thin, pale face beamed with joy. That stay at the vacation colony was paradise for her, and when she returned home she was so changed, as much from a moral as from a physical viewpoint, that her grandmother did not recognize her.

From that time, to prove her gratitude, Simone set herself to learn the lessons for Thursdays and Sundays, in spite of a defective memory.

That the Gospel is a source of security and peace is exemplified by the following. The L. family would be quite happy if the mother were not

affected by paralysis. She walks with great difficulty and only by her indomitable energy does she fulfill her duties as mother of a workman's family. Yet she is always serene and happy, even gay. When I marveled at this fact she said to me, "I haven't always been like this, but since we have been attending your meetings I have learned to have no fear for the future, for God will always take care of us."

On Tuesdays we have a large number of women who come very regularly. Some come from a distance but are none the less faithful in attendance.

A little group of five in particular delight us by their desire for instruction in religious matters. Their joy was great in finding "a place where the truth is explained in clear French." The New Testament, the tracts and the pamphlets we give them are read with ardor. One of these women, Mme. H., has manifested the desire to join a Protestant church and I believe her example will soon be followed by others.

Mme. G. was invited to a New Year's Eve celebration by some friends who own a small café. In the course of the evening each guest was asked to sing a song, according to the custom on such occasions. When her turn came, Mme. G. rose and said, "I know no songs, but if you wish, I will sing a hymn of which I am very fond," and she began to sing No. 195 of the McAll collection. The three verses she sung were heard in silence and there in that café a humble woman

courageously gave testimony of faith in her Savior.

HENRIETTE LIÉNARD.



ST. BRIEUC

We have just closed a vigorous campaign of the movable hall at Saint-Brieuc, in the Gouédic quarter, which is becoming a very important part of the town.

The movable hall was opened at Saint-Brieuc the latter part of November, with the kind help of our friends, M. Wehelpton, pastor of Saint-Brieuc, and M. Bree, pastor of Saint-Servan. The first evening, in spite of our posters and an abundant distribution of printed invitations, we seemed to have made a mistake in choosing this quarter for our meetings. However, about forty adults and a few children came. This was far from equalling the eagerness shown elsewhere. But the next day the aspect of the auditorium was changed. Women came with men who had been there the evening before, and our hall was full without being overcrowded. When we spoke of Jesus Christ one listener asked us to talk about the mother of Jesus also. We complied with this request and the audience listened with rapt attention to what we said about the Virgin Mary as fiancée, as mother and wife, and above all as servant of the Lord. The great majority of our listeners were convinced, and the next day there were not enough seats for all.

Thereafter our audience knew that Jesus is our Saviour, that we have the

greatest reverence for the Virgin, and that the Gospel is the subject of our instruction. Attendance has fluctuated somewhat, but of about a hundred persons who came to our Sunday and Wednesday meetings more or less regularly, thirty or forty earnest ones always occupied their places up to the last meeting. On that occasion one of our friends, devoted from the first day, declared on leaving, after a talk by Rev. D. Bernard, pastor of Havre, that the Protestants had done a splendid work, had won many hearts and had banished many fears and prejudices. A woman said, "This is the last meeting; it's too bad you are leaving."

J. SCARABIN.



SAINT-NAZAIRE

What is the Fraternité of Saint-Nazaire? In appearance it is a movable hall incapable of being erected again elsewhere. Humidity, cold, wind, and even rain penetrate the rotten or disjoined boards of this building. Moreover, the passer-by who judges by its exterior would go on his way, saying to himself, "This is a sort of shanty which seems to have been brought from the Paris Zone."

Happily, we have faithful friends, who were also among those passing by. Now they give us their support because they have become capable of appreciating the Gospel as it is taught at the Fraternité. We must mention, however, that often this winter our friends were chilled in the course of these meetings, and were obliged to leave before the end, sometimes after taking cold.

Such is our Fraternité, which a sailor once called "an old tub which you are directed to sail into the open sea. You must have faith to keep it afloat whether you are captain or one of the crew."

Want of annexes makes it impossible to hold more than one meeting at a time, yet there are more than fifty families won over to our cause, and some fifty others under our religious and social influence. Over one hundred children come to the patronage, and many members belong to the Y. W. C. A., Y. M. C. A., and the newly organized Anti-Alcoholic League.

Moreover, here is an instance which explains why we dare not capitulate.

One Sunday, after the meeting, the wife of a captain of a trading vessel came to us in tears. "My husband is very ill," she said. "I have received a letter from the sanatorium informing me that he is near death. It is terrible to be left alone with three children. Oh, if only he were a believer, but he has no faith and I cannot be certain of seeing him again."

"Would he welcome a visit?"

"Sir, he would silence you as soon as you spoke of the Gospel. His anger might even bring on a new and final attack."

"I will write to him, then," I said.

Three days later a letter came from the sick man charging his wife to say he would be happy to see me, and expressing his thanks. I went to have a talk with him. Evoking the memory

of a shipwreck in which he was nearly lost, I asked him if he wanted to let his soul perish with his body in case sickness should cast him on the rocks of death. "No," was his answer. Then I spoke to him of Jesus Christ, and ended our talk with a prayer.

Soon after, a second letter from the sick man affirmed his dawning faith and requested a Bible. To the priest who visited him he declared, "I have become a disciple of Jesus Christ, and that is sufficient for me."

When I next saw him, to my question, "If you had to depart, would you be ready?" he replied in the affirmative. Then, quietly, he passed away.

MAURICE LEBERRE.



SAINT-QUENTIN FRATERNITE

On my arrival at the Fraternité in October, 1929, there were six children, and today, in February, 1931, we have an average of one hundred five. The Sunday school has, at present, an enrollment of eighty attentive children. The parents of most of them are communists, anarchists, unbelievers.

Last summer we opened a vacation school, for the first time, during the months of July and August. The results of this undertaking proved its worth, since we had an average of thirty-five pupils, and seven new families were attracted to the Fraternité.

The Sunday meetings have been attended by an average of one hundred seventy persons. The Christmas fête and "watch night" were particularly lively.

After one meeting, a stranger said to me, "How foolish we are always to follow men, when Jesus, of whom you have spoken, is here to guide us." Since that day the man has been one of our faithful friends.

A child to whom we had given a Gospel came to see us a few days later and said, "I have read the whole Book. It was fine, and I would like to have one for Mother, too."

We rejoice in our two young Cadet groups which have a membership of nineteen girls and twenty-three boys. This is a rich promise for the future. This month we are organizing a troop of Wolf Cubs which will be well launched by summer.

Spiritual work is also being accomplished among the young people who are now asking for Bible study. Is this not real encouragement for those who were doubtful of the Fraternité's usefulness in our quarter of Saint-Quentin?

MARCEL PAYOT.



FOYER FRATERNEL OF ST. QUENTIN

The Foyer Fraternel is continuing to make progress, and its various meetings are attended by large audiences. At the Sunday services all the seats are occupied. The Sunday school includes ten groups of more than ten pupils each, fifty-two of whom are never absent. The children always know their lessons, for those who have difficulty in learning are aided by their more proficient comrades, who hear

their lessons with patience and kindness as many times as is necessary. The joy of these little pupils is great when each group can report that "everyone knows his lesson." Each child brings a sou for the Missions and the school.

The teachers are former pupils who were taught in the school from the age of ten, and they now give their services with zeal and faith. Their eyes shine at the announcement of the song, "Always, always we will love you, school so dear."

The pupils are even more numerous at the Thursday school, for they include the children of women who work in factories.

Cadets, Cadettes, Wolf Cubs and Little Wings are increasing in number and strength. Some of the prayers at the meetings are touching: "Lord Jesus, I thank you for helping me not to lie any more." "Help me to be a good Wolf Cub." "Keep my father from drinking and help him love me." "Jesus, I have no shoes, but I will give you a sou on Sunday just the same." One child has so completely changed and is so tractable and earnest that his parents scarcely recognize him. A bad, sulky little girl no longer needs to be corrected and shows herself willing to give service.

Thirteen Cadets and twelve Cadettes are in the first class. Their teachers are proud of them and remark on their attitude, for they try to put their laws into practice.

The members of our Coligny Sports Club, one of the best in the town,

set an example of good sportsmanship, and fidelity to promises. Their victories have been numerous, and several of their trophies decorate the Foyer. Each year their best members come to reinforce our Y. M. C. A., when they have been won over to the Gospel.

Mlle. L. PREVOST-BROUILLET.



SALLE CENTRALE

When we visit a sick member of our church, we usually learn that he has also received a call from one or another of our friends. This is the result of our family meetings, held the fourth Friday of each month. In that friendly atmosphere bonds of brotherhood are established among the heads of families. Our church preserves its missionary characteristics due to the fact that it is becoming the spiritual family of the young men from our young people's activities and because support comes to us from adults attracted by the preaching of the Gospel.

There is a family of three who attend our services Sunday after Sunday, and who have entrusted to us a girl of twelve for the catechism.

In the hands of Mlle. Savary the mothers' meetings continue their success in spite of diminished funds set aside for them for Christmas gifts, "*goûter*," etc. This proves that they come for other reasons. Each week they give joyfully to the Missions.

One of these women, after taking a Bible study course with Mlle. Savary desired to take communion and to be received into the church. Stricken

with an attack of apoplexy, she died a Christian, willing to us a dog and a parrot, the only companions of her solitude.

At the beginning of October our staff was impoverished by the departure of Mlle. Savary. We are glad that she is continuing her work with mothers, but she has not been replaced in many of the activities in which she was whole-heartedly occupied: president of the Espoir, untiring visitor, and teacher of an advanced Sunday school class. Mlle. Savary's departure deprived us not only of an extraordinary worker, but of a spiritual force.

ROBERT LORRIAUX.



SEBASTOPOL

How much we would like to be better acquainted with those unknown listeners who visit our hall, and then are caught again by the whirlwind of the outside world.

Many, of course, attend regularly. Some come every Sunday or another day of the week, and others have been present every evening for years. The hour spent at the hall is the intimate time which they love. Outside is darkness, in here is soft light, warmth, repose—repose above all. "I have been without a home for three years," said a poor woman, a veritable wreck. "I am going to the market," another told me. "I hope I'll find plenty of work there, and straw to sleep on." However, in addition to these derelicts, there are the older members who have their modest rooms and their occupa-

tions, and love the hall for its atmosphere of peace and joy.

They listen tirelessly to the speaker, nodding their heads with an air of approval, and their faces light up when they are told of the Savior's love for the little ones here below.

Some have religious experiences. They attend the services of the neighboring churches with frequency because they have real need of the Gospel. "You did not say the essential thing this evening," one of them said to me, "that we must prepare for heaven." Some of our followers, in their eagerness to hear religious matters discussed, come from as great distances as Ménilmontant, la Place d'Italie and even from the outskirts of Paris.

A very small number pause a few moments, as they are leaving, to shake hands, and the others, as they pass, murmur "Thank you," and go on their way.

GEORGE GALLIENNE.

LA VILLETTE

On the day of Pentecost a very simple repast, seasoned with cordiality and gaiety, brought together in the hall four families in which the sacrament had just been received. Five converts, three of whom were Boy Scouts, promised that day to be faithful to Christ in His church. Their mothers conceived the idea of this family celebration, which left all with pleasant memories.

Since his first communion, one of these boys has instituted the custom of family worship each evening. His earnestness fills his grandmother with admiration and joy.

Mlle. A. GARDIOL.

LA BONNE NOUVELLE

At Sainte-Aulde we were given a joyous welcome. In spite of continuous rains, listeners came from miles around. When a new flood isolated us completely, a café owner offered us his dance hall for our meetings. Although the curé had promised a pencil box to every child who did not go to the boat, and threatened with excommunication those who might come, about thirty children came regularly to the meetings. We were thus able to organize a splendid program for the Christmas Fête. The constable, who was one of our most faithful attendants, told us that before our arrival he had to post himself at the school door at the end of the day to prevent the children from fighting, and he was much astonished to find the same children so obedient at our meetings.

The mayor, learning that we had no Christmas tree for our fête, requested the constable to find one on his property. This was the first Christmas tree that had been seen in the village, and many were heard to say, "It is too bad that Christmas does not come oftener."

In spite of obstacles of all kinds, we are persuaded that much good has been done, and that the Gospel has borne much fruit.

Progress

News of McAll Groups Here and There

BOSTON

At the annual meeting of the Auxiliary Miss Helen Bleecker was elected president, taking the place of the retiring officer, Mrs. Frank E. Anderson. In spite of adverse conditions, the Auxiliary reports a very successful financial year.



DETROIT

The new Detroit Auxiliary has continued to grow and prosper with the coming of spring. The proceeds of a party held at the Detroit Yacht Club, added to collections from dues and special gifts, enabled the treasurer to forward \$75 to be used in sending six children to vacation colonies. Ninety-six garments have been completed for shipment to France. An evening card party was held April 28, in view of accomplishing two things: form a little nest-egg for the empty treasury, and introduce the husbands of McAll to one another.



EASTON

Mrs. Ewart G. Davies was the speaker at the annual meeting of the Easton Auxiliary held at the Y. W. C. A. building at the invitation of the members of the Y. W. C. A. Board, who are also members of the executive

committee of the Auxiliary. Mrs. Davies' topic was, "National Organization of McAll—Its Officers, Methods and Program."

The following officers were elected to serve for the coming year: President, Mrs. William Wolverton; vice-presidents, Mrs. E. Stanley Bixler, Mrs. W. O. Hay, Mrs. Paul Wolper and Mrs. Irene Lehr; treasurer, Miss Carrie Leidy; secretary, Miss Alice M. Randall.



HARTFORD

At the third and last mid-winter sewing meeting of the Auxiliary, many attractive children's dresses and other garments were completed.

The Auxiliary has been collecting old gold and silver for some time, and has realized a substantial sum from gold scraps which were sold for melting. Many interesting pieces of old jewelry were donated, and were offered at an "old gold and silver sale" in the home of Miss Flagg.



MINNEAPOLIS

Raoul Simon, a French student in the University of Minnesota, whose parents live near Nantes, discussed the religious situation in France at the annual meeting of the Auxiliary, May 1, in Westminster Church.

The last sewing meeting of the year was held March 27 to finish a number of garments which were sent to Elizabeth, New Jersey, for the April shipment.

▼
NEW BRUNSWICK

Mrs. Laura E. Anthony, of Maplewood, New Jersey, was the speaker at an open meeting held in March. Two of the sixteen members of the children's group of New Brunswick were inspired by Mrs. Anthony's address to make a successful effort to earn money for the children of France. Eight managers, representing eight churches of the city, report many contributors, but a reduction in contributions, owing to the prevailing financial stress.

▼
NEW HAVEN

Miss Elizabeth Congdon, Associate Field Representative, was the speaker at the annual meeting of the Auxiliary, held March 19 in Center Church House. Guests on that occasion were Mrs. John G. Nagel, president of Meriden Auxiliary, and Mrs. James S. North, president of New Britain Auxiliary. New Haven is feeling justly proud because on the list of new members this year is noted the name of the Rev. Augustus Field Beard, D.D., who will be ninety-eight years old on May 11.

Dr. Beard was a warm personal friend of Dr. McAll, and was pastor of the American Church in Paris during the early years of the work of the Mission.

NEW YORK CITY

The annual Spring Tea of the Auxiliary was held March 25 at the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, West 48th Street. Miss Eleanor Cook gave a costume recital of Slavic songs and dances to an enthusiastic audience which filled the hall. During the intermission Mrs. Graham Livingston made an appeal for the work in France, to which a generous response was made. This interesting event was made possible by the generous interest of a friend of the Auxiliary.

Announcement is made of the resignation of the Auxiliary's president, Mrs. Charles N. Lowrie, and of the chairman of the executive committee, Mrs. Graham Livingston.

▼
PHILADELPHIA

Dr. Joseph Fort Newton gave an inspiring address at the fifty-first annual meeting of the Philadelphia Auxiliary, April 15, in St. James' Episcopal Church, Philadelphia.

The current roster of officers was re-elected with the exception of Mrs. Richard S. McKinley, treasurer, who resigned because of her duties in the same capacity with the National Board. Mrs. Harry T. Montgomery was chosen to fill the vacancy.

▼
PITTSFIELD

The Pittsfield Auxiliary reports the election of a new president at its annual meeting, March 3. Mrs. Henry M. Seaver was elected to succeed Miss Harriet Plunkett, who had

completed twenty years as presiding officer. Miss Plunkett has been made president emeritus.

Mrs. Warren S. Archibald, of Hartford, gave a delightful talk on her experiences in France last summer.

Five dolls, dressed by Mrs. Ulrich Gay and a group from the French Evangelical Church of Pittsfield, were presented to the Auxiliary for the use of children at the Fraternité of Nantes.

PLAINFIELD

Mrs. John Y. Broek, who has served the Plainfield Auxiliary with distinction as its president since 1925, has retired from that office in favor of Mrs. Arthur E. Ralph.

ST. PAUL

A large box of garments, valued at \$78, was packed in March for shipment to France by Mrs. McMillan, of the House of Hope Church. Mrs. George Senkler has assumed the duties of recording secretary, and Miss Rachael Abbott will serve as treasurer.

WORCESTER

The Worcester Auxiliary met on April 6 for its annual meeting. Articles from the March Record and Association leaflets were read. Present officers were re-elected for the ensuing year.

Buffalo says, "Let us show you our brand of hospitality, May 13 and 14."

From Toronto Comes the Voice of Our Sister Organization

"HISTORY repeats itself," is a truism often used in speaking of the life of a nation and we find the statement quite as applicable to the life of our McAll Association in Canada. Nearly all the same officers, the same number of meetings and the same striving to meet our financial objectives.

However, here we stop and take stock and encouragement, for although the background has a sameness, the glory and the thrill come in our realization that we are reaching out to break new ground in France and endeavoring to save new souls.

The Toronto Auxiliaries, three in number, have had a year of happy gatherings when we have been privileged to hear several eloquent addresses. One was by Rev. Stanley Russell in which he asked us to try and realize the importance in our own lives of sending the Gospel to France. He drew a romantic picture of returning to the old world what had been given to us.

Another happy meeting was what we called a "Home Day" when our own members told of interesting events of the McAll Mission from its earliest days, in France, the United States, and Canada. There was much in those papers worthy of being passed on.

At our February meeting we welcomed Miss Elizabeth Congdon, Associate Field Representative of the

American Association. What busy days she spent with us meeting and speaking to all our Auxiliaries! Her slides were a joy, indeed, bringing to us more vividly our work in France.

Our last meeting had, as guest of honor, Dr. Alfred Laglialatela, of Rome, who spoke most intimately of Protestantism and the need of it in Europe. Thirty millions of the population of France without a church connection, many of them looking and longing for a God of reality is enough to arouse us to do something greater than we have ever attempted before.

We have felt the general financial depression in some degree. Considering this, the advice of one speaker was, "In this time of noise and rattle, shut thy door and call to Jesus."

This, I think, is a good motto for the coming year.

(MRS. W. G.) LAURIE CHARLESON.



An Error of Omission

In connection with the article, "How Father Christmas Came to Nantes," in the March issue, mention should have been made of the fact that the Christmas *fêtes* at Nantes are made possible, in large part, through the generosity of a group of friends in Morristown, N. J., headed by Dr. Frederick Owen.

Through an oversight, the name of Mrs. Charles H. Field, one of the charter members of the Hartford Auxiliary, was omitted from the Quarter Century Club. Similarly, the name of Miss Ida Flagg should be included in the Springfield list.

Owing to lack of space additional names which have been reported recently can not be printed in this issue. These include three in New Brunswick, seven in Sewickley, and 41 in Troy.

Saved!

THAT man with the happy, smiling face is like a new being!

Yesterday—today. Formerly—now. These words divide his tragic existence into two distinct parts, just as the centuries are also clearly separated according to whether they precede or follow the coming of Christ.

Ten years of prison in the French penal colony of Guiana were succeeded by the usual ten years of "doublage,"—twenty years of misery haunted by the dream of returning to France and of finding there the surviving members of his family. This dream was impossible to realize, for the passage would be very dear. Employed on a plantation, our friend earned five francs and two litres of rum a day, which he consumed regularly.

Accused of a political murder the trial for which, for greater safety, took place not in Guiana but at Nantes, the man was brought to the old Breton city. His innocence was established and they were going to take him back to the land of misery. He asked to be allowed to remain in France since his sentence was ended, but the judge was opposed to it, saying that no one would wish to employ a former convict and that in a few weeks he would again be in the hands of the law.

His lawyer, however, rose to say: "I know an institution in this city where men's lives are renewed. If the Fraternité is willing to take him, I ask the court to put this man in their care."

A telephone call to the *Fraternité* drew forth the answer: "Agreed! We will receive him gladly."

That same evening the ex-convict took up his lodging at the *Fraternité*. The following day a place was found for him and he began his life as a free workman.

However, ten years of excessive use of rum had left their mark. Several times the man returned intoxicated to the *Fraternité*. Filled with shame, he twice tried to hang himself. The only promise he wants to make to his friends is to go hang himself elsewhere in order not to cause them trouble. But all redouble their love and prayers. At the annual outing of the *Fraternité*, it was he who carried the banner at the head of the long procession, for they wanted to make him conscious of his dignity. "It is the greatest day of my life," he said.

Now for several months he has remained faithful to his pledge of abstinence, for God has given him strength. He plays the bass drum in the brass band of the *Fraternité*. He joyfully strives to be a better man, hoping to be able to find his family again. They will not be ashamed of him of whom God gladly calls Himself Father.



Shipments of garments totaling \$1,-160.50 have been forwarded to France during the past year by the Elizabeth depot.

Sword or Cross?

RECENTLY the monument at Saint-Nazaire, erected in memory of the participation of the United States in the war, has been changed in aspect. To be sure, at the top of the column whose base is caressed or beaten by the waves, the American soldier is still to be seen on the back of a gigantic eagle, but he no longer brandishes a sword in his right hand. The symbol of the warrior, loosened by wind and rain, has fallen into the sea. Only the hilt remains.

They say that the blade of the sword has been recovered. Can they be thinking of replacing it up there, in the hand of the doughboy, who is little concerned about the loss? Let us abandon the narrow nationalism and a certain sectarian anticlericalism inspired by Moscow, and let us leave to the monument its new symbolism.

Henceforth, it is a cross that America gives to Europe, a fine, large cross! Who would dare to think of transforming this cross into a sword?

The cross! Every nation should set it up, with boldness and sincerity, to conquer, in the name of the Prince of peace, the voracious eagle of war which would like to soar once more.

Let us wish that the Holy Spirit may bring to us that which is best from America, the regenerating America which we love, and may Americans not only give the Cross to us, but may they bear it with us in brotherhood

M. LEBERRE.

Annual Meeting Committees

FOLLOWING is a complete list of the committees having charge of arrangements for the annual meeting to be held in Buffalo, May 13 and 14:

General Chairmen: Miss Harriet M. Buck, Mrs. Charles Pankow, Jr.

Vice-Chairmen: Mrs. George H. Dunston, Mrs. Dana B. Hellings.

Hospitality: Miss Harriet M. Buck, Mrs. Charles Pankow.

Ways and Means: Mrs. G. Barrett Rich, Jr., Mrs. Harry C. Kline.

Reception: Mrs. Charles C. Slaght, Mrs. Henry Wertimer, Mrs. Henry Schaefer, Jr.

Decorations: Mrs. William H. Mansperger, Mrs. Merle B. Whitney.

Registration: Mrs. P. S. McCurdy.

Badges: Mrs. Albert M. Nicholson.

Ushers: Mrs. H. B. Herdeg.

Music and Pageant: Mrs. Dana B. Hellings.

Dinner: Mrs. John A. Rose, Mrs. Harry C. Kline.

Luncheon: Mrs. George Searle, Mrs. Vernon G. Caldwell.

Transportation: Mrs. W. C. Maltby, Mrs. J. A. Owenhouse.

Press and Publicity: Miss Frances E. Bliss.



Has your Auxiliary made a pledge toward the Annual Meeting Special Improvement Fund?



The Christmas card for this coming December is ready for the printer. It will bear a four color reproduction of a water color depicting a scene that is typically French. Wait for samples.

Protestant Missions at the Colonial Exposition

A FEW years ago in France it was the fashion to speak in a disparaging way about Christian missions. But now the tide has turned and a very tangible proof of this change is the fact that a fine, well situated site has been awarded to French missions at the Colonial Exposition which opens this summer in the Bois de Vincennes.

What is still more extraordinary is that whereas, in France, Protestants are only two per cent of the population, one third of this site has been awarded to French Protestant missions by Marshal Lyautey, commissioner general of the exhibition. This distinguished colonial leader appreciates, although he is of Catholic faith, the social and moral value of Protestant missions.



Summer Changes of Address

From June 1 to August 30 the addresses of the Field Representatives in France will be as follows:

Miss Elizabeth Congdon, care of Morgan & Co., 14 Place Vendome, Paris.

C. G. Bittner, 34, rue de Ponthieu (8), Paris.

Mrs. Helen M. Craig, president of the Association, is also planning to spend the summer in France and may be reached at the banking house of Hottinguer et Cie, rue de Provence, Paris.



New films showing activities of the Mission will be "shot" this summer. Fall engagements for the Field Representative should be made as early as possible.

Receipts of the American McAll Association from Auxiliaries and Churches

February 4—April 4, 1931—\$37,061.51

MASSACHUSETTS, \$3,208.90

Boston Auxiliary	\$2,557.10
Lexington	86.50
Northampton Auxiliary	70.00
Pittsfield Auxiliary	248.60
Springfield Auxiliary	198.00
Springfield Junior Auxiliary	9.30
Worcester Auxiliary	40.00

CONNECTICUT, \$3,136.72

Hartford Auxiliary	\$ 448.75
Hartford	1.00
Hartford Junior Auxiliary	125.00
Meriden Auxiliary	398.00
Meriden Junior Auxiliary	37.80
New Britain Auxiliary	36.00
New Haven Auxiliary	1,915.07
New Haven FrAm	36.00
Norwich Auxiliary	133.10

NEW YORK, \$16,057.60

Albany Auxiliary	\$ 135.00
Brooklyn Auxiliary	2,724.00
Buffalo Auxiliary	790.50
Buffalo Junior Auxiliary	600.00
Student McAll Buffalo	37.60
Buffalo Children's Auxiliary	12.50
Flushing Junior Auxiliary	26.50
Ithaca Circle	506.00
Larchmont Auxiliary	194.00
New York Auxiliary	3,554.00
New York Boat Benefit Committee	10.00
Rochester Auxiliary	472.00
Syracuse Friends	114.50
Troy Auxiliary	849.00
Troy FrAm	32.00

NEW JERSEY, \$5,238.89

Belvidere Auxiliary	\$ 90.25
Chatham	100.00
Elizabeth Auxiliary	25.00
Montclair Auxiliary	1,557.16
Newark Auxiliary	468.00
Maplewood FrAm	81.90
New Brunswick Auxiliary	908.33
Auxiliary of the Oranges	526.62
Plainfield Auxiliary	1,423.13
Princeton Circle	22.50
Trenton Auxiliary	36.00

PENNSYLVANIA, \$9,744.75

Chambersburg, French Club, Wilson Col- lege	\$ 36.00
Chester Auxiliary	195.00
Easton Auxiliary	253.75
French History Club	125.00

PENNSYLVANIA, \$9,744.75 (Continued)

Moylan	\$8.00
Philadelphia Auxiliary	4,607.00
Philadelphia Junior Auxiliary	50.00
Pittsburgh Auxiliary	2,647.00
Sewickley Auxiliary	1,444.00
West Chester Auxiliary	50.00
Williamsport	2.00
Wilkes-Barre Auxiliary	327.00

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, \$1,369.10

Washington Auxiliary	\$ 852.50
Annie L. Edwards Memorial	500.00
Washington Junior Auxiliary	16.60

OHIO, \$155.00

Cincinnati Friends	\$ 155.00
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MARYLAND, \$1,312.00

Baltimore Auxiliary	\$1,187.00
Grace Winchester Fisher Memorial Fund	125.00

RHODE ISLAND, \$51.00

Providence Auxiliary	\$ 51.00
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ILLINOIS, \$235.00

Chicago	\$ 200.00
Lake Forest	35.00

MICHIGAN, \$222.05

Detroit Auxiliary	\$ 222.05
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CALIFORNIA, \$7.00

Pasadena	\$ 2.00
San Diego	5.00

FLORIDA, \$36.00

Mt. Dora, Kings Daughters	\$ 36.00
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WISCONSIN, \$50.00

Milwaukee Auxiliary	\$ 50.00
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DELAWARE, \$145.00

Wilmington Auxiliary	\$ 136.00
Wilmington Junior Auxiliary	9.00

MINNESOTA, \$1,207.50

Minneapolis Auxiliary	\$ 649.50
St. Paul Auxiliary	558.00

MISCELLANEOUS

Per C. G. Bittner	\$ 50.00
Per George H. Buchanan Company	15.00
Per National FrAm Group	52.00
Per Miscellaneous Gifts Junior Work	725.00
Per Old Bennington Opportunity Club	25.00
Per Sale Christmas Cards	22.50
Per Sale Poulbot Cards	1.50

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